WE CLAIM:

1.   A method of automatically switching between computer-enabled input modes, comprising:

enabling a selection-based input mode whereby input is accepted via a selection-based input device;

initiating use of a pen-based input device; and

in response to initiating use of a pen-based input device, automatically switching from the selection-based input mode to a pen-based input mode without user input.

2.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising initiating use of a selection-based input device; and

in response to initiating use of a selection-based input device, automatically switching from the pen-based input mode back to the selection-based input mode without user input.

3.   The method of Claim 2, prior to enabling a selection-based input mode, selecting an automatic input switching mode.

4.   The method of Claim 2, whereby the selection-based input device is a mousing device.

5.   The method of Claim 2, whereby the selection-based input device is a keyboard.

6.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising latching the selection-based input device so that the selection-based input device behaves as a pen-based input device.

7.   The method of Claim 6, whereby while the selection-based input device is latched for behavior as a pen-based input device, using the selection-based input device as a pen-based input device.

8.   The method of Claim 7, further comprising initiating use of the pen-based input device; and

in response to initiating use of the pen-based input device, automatically unlatching the selection-based input device from behaving as a pen-based input device.

9.   The method of Claim 8, whereby initiating use of the pen-based input device includes movement of the pen-based input device whereby said pen-based input device is operative to input data when the pen-based input device is engaged with a computer-enabled display screen operative to receive input from the pen-based input device.

10.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising latching the pen-based input device so that the pen-based input device behaves as a selection-based input device.

11.   The method of Claim 10, whereby while the pen-based input device is latched for behavior as a selection-based input device, using the pen-based input device as a selection-based input device.

12.   The method of Claim 11, further comprising initiating use of the selection-based input device; and

in response to initiating use of the selection-based input device, automatically unlatching the pen-based input device from behaving as a selection-based input device.

13.   The method of Claim 12, whereby initiating use of the selection-based input device includes moving a mousing device.

14. The method of Claim 12, whereby initiating use of the selection-based input device includes selecting a keyboard key.

15. A method of automatically switching between computer-enabled input modes, comprising:

enabling a selection-based input mode whereby input is accepted via a selection-based input device;

initiating use of a computer-enabled electronic pen operative to input data when the electronic pen is engaged with a computer-enabled display screen operative to receive input from the electronic pen;

in response to initiating use of the computer-enabled electronic pen, automatically switching from the selection-based input mode to a pen-based input mode;

initiating use of a mousing device; and

in response to initiating use of the mousing device, automatically switching from the pen-based input mode to the selection-based input mode.

16. The method of Claim 15, whereby the selection-based input device is a mousing device.

17. The method of Claim 15, whereby the selection-based input device is a keyboard.

18.	A method of automatically switching between computer-enabled input modes, comprising:

enabling a selection-based input mode whereby input is accepted via a selection-based input device;

initiating use of a pen-based input device;

in response to initiating use of a pen-based input device, automatically switching from the selection-based input mode to a pen-based input mode;

initiating use of a selection-based input device;

in response to initiating use of a selection-based input device, automatically switching from the pen-based input mode back to the selection-based input mode;

latching the selection-based input device so that the selection-based input device behaves as a pen-based input device;

initiating use of the pen-based input device, and in response to initiating use of the pen-based input device, automatically unlatching the selection-based input device from behaving as a pen-based input device;

latching the pen-based input device so that the pen-based input device behaves as a selection-based input device;

initiating use of the selection-based input device; and

in response to initiating use of the selection-based input device, automatically unlatching the pen-based input device from behaving as a selection-based input device.

19.	The method of Claim 18, whereby initiating use of the selection-based input device includes moving a mousing device.

20.	The method of Claim 18, whereby initiating use of the selection-based input device includes selecting a keyboard key.